

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 2 and 3, and amend claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10 and add new claims 32-37 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A bracket assembly for supporting seed planting appurtenances in substantial alignment with respect to a seed tube of an agricultural planter, said bracket assembly comprising:

a housing having opposing first and second sides;

mounting structure for securing said housing to an agricultural planter rearwardly and in substantial alignment with respect to a seed tube of an agricultural planter;

walls for maintaining said first and second sides of said housing in spaced apart relation, and wherein said walls further define a cavity in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube for receiving a resilient tool such that an upper end of said resilient tool is receivably supported in said cavity and wherein a lower end of said resilient tool is disposed rearwardly and in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube, and wherein said walls further define a passageway through at least a portion of said housing;

a length of liquid conduit disposed through said passageway and wherein one end of said liquid conduit is in fluid communication with a liquid supply reservoir and wherein a second end of said liquid conduit is supported rearwardly and in substantial alignment with said lower end of said resilient tool, whereby said liquid conduit communicates liquid from said liquid supply reservoir downward through said passageway and rearwardly of said lower end of said resilient tool.

2. (Cancelled)

3. Cancelled

4. (Currently Amended) The bracket assembly of claim 31 wherein said mounting structure includes a pair of first ears between which the seed tube is receivable, each of said first ears having an opening sufficient to receive a shaft rotatably supporting at least one furrow opening disc forwardly of the seed tube whereby the housing is removably fixed to the shaft and operably supported thereby in substantial alignment with the seed tube.

5. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 4 wherein the pair of first ears comprise metal ear tabs integral with the first and second sides.

6. (Currently Amended) The bracket assembly of claim 31 wherein said mounting structure includes apertures disposed in an upper end of said housing for removably mounting the housing operably onto a frame of the agricultural planter such that the housing is removably fixed in relation to the seed tube and operably supported in substantial alignment therewith.

7. (Currently Amended) The bracket assembly of claim 31 further including a locking member movable relative to the housing and operable upon the upper end of the resilient tool disposed in the cavity to removably restrain the resilient tool with respect to the housing.

8. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 7 wherein the locking member is further operable upon the upper end of the resilient tool disposed in the cavity to adjust a vertical position of said lower end of said resilient tool with respect to a lower end of the housing.

9. (Currently Amended) A bracket assembly for supporting seed planting appurtenances in substantial alignment with respect to a seed tube of an agricultural planter, said bracket assembly comprising:

a housing having opposing first and second sides;

mounting structure for securing said housing to an agricultural planter rearwardly and in substantial alignment with respect to a seed tube of an agricultural planter;

walls for maintaining said first and second sides of said housing in spaced apart relation, and wherein said walls further define a cavity in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube for receiving a resilient tool, and wherein said walls further define a passageway through at least a portion of said housing;

~~The bracket assembly of claim 1 further comprising~~ a support arm having first and second ends, said first end operably supported by said housing, said second end extending rearwardly of said first end and in substantial alignment with said seed tube, said second end having a fitting to support one end of a conduit.

10. (Currently Amended) A bracket assembly for supporting seed planting appurtenances in substantial alignment with respect to a seed tube of an agricultural planter, said bracket assembly comprising:

a housing having opposing first and second sides;

mounting structure for securing said housing to an agricultural planter rearwardly and in substantial alignment with respect to a seed tube of ~~an~~the agricultural planter, said mounting structure including a pair of first metal ears between which the seed tube is receivable, each of said first metal ears having an opening sufficient to receive a shaft rotatably supporting at least one furrow opening disc forwardly of the seed tube;

walls for maintaining said first and second sides of said housing in spaced apart relation, and wherein said walls further define a cavity in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube for receiving a resilient tool.

11. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 10 wherein said upper end of said resilient tool is receivably supported in said cavity and wherein a lower end of said resilient tool is disposed rearwardly and in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube.

12. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 11 further comprising a support arm having first and second ends, said first end operably supported by said housing, said second end extending rearwardly of said first end and in substantial alignment with said seed tube, said second end having a fitting to support one end of a conduit.

13. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 12 further comprising a conduit support wherein a length of liquid conduit is supported by said conduit support rearwardly of said housing and wherein one end of said liquid conduit is in fluid communication with a liquid supply reservoir and wherein a second end of said liquid conduit is supported rearwardly and in substantial alignment with said lower end of said resilient tool, whereby said liquid conduit communicates liquid from said liquid supply reservoir rearwardly of said lower end of said resilient tool.

14. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 12 wherein said walls further define a passageway through at least a portion of said housing.

15. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 13 wherein a length of liquid conduit is disposed through said passageway and wherein one end of said liquid conduit is in fluid communication with a liquid supply reservoir and wherein a second end of said liquid conduit is supported rearwardly and in substantial alignment with said lower end of said resilient tool, whereby said liquid conduit communicates liquid from said liquid supply reservoir downward through said passageway and rearwardly of said lower end of said resilient tool.

16. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 13 further including a locking member movable relative to the housing and operable upon the upper end of the resilient tool disposed in the cavity to removably restrain the resilient tool with respect to the housing.

17. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 16 wherein the locking member is further operable upon the upper end of the resilient tool disposed in the cavity to adjust a vertical position of said lower end of said resilient tool with respect to a lower end of the housing.

18. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 15 further including a locking member movable relative to the housing and operable upon the upper end of the resilient tool disposed in the cavity to removably restrain the resilient tool with respect to the housing.

19. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 18 wherein the locking member is further operable upon the upper end of the resilient tool disposed in the cavity to adjust a vertical position of said lower end of said resilient tool with respect to a lower end of the housing.

20. (Currently Amended) A bracket assembly for supporting seed planting appurtenances in substantial alignment with respect to a seed tube of an agricultural planter, said bracket assembly comprising:

a housing having opposing first and second sides;
mounting structure for securing said housing to an agricultural planter rearwardly and in substantial alignment with respect to a seed tube of an agricultural planter;
walls for maintaining said first and second sides of said housing in spaced apart relation;
a support arm having first and second ends, said first end operably supported by said housing, said second end extending rearwardly of said first end and in substantial alignment with said ~~the~~ seed tube, said second end having a fitting to support one end of a conduit.

21. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 20 wherein said mounting structure includes a pair of first ears between which the seed tube is receivable, each of said first ears having an opening sufficient to receive a shaft rotatably supporting at least one furrow opening disc forwardly of the seed tube whereby the housing is removably fixed to the shaft and operably supported thereby in substantial alignment with the seed tube.

22. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 21 wherein the pair of first ears comprise metal ear tabs integral with the first and second sides.

23. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 20 wherein said mounting structure includes apertures disposed in an upper end of said housing for removably mounting the housing operably onto a frame of the agricultural planter such that the housing is removably fixed in relation to the seed tube and operably supported in substantial alignment therewith.

24. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 20 wherein said walls further define a cavity in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube for receiving a resilient tool.

25. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 24 wherein said upper end of said resilient tool is receivably supported in said cavity and wherein a lower end of said resilient tool is disposed rearwardly and in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube.

26. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 25 wherein said walls further define a passageway through at least a portion of said housing.

27. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 26 wherein a length of liquid conduit is disposed through said passageway and wherein one end of said liquid conduit is in fluid communication with a liquid supply reservoir and wherein a second end of said liquid conduit is supported rearwardly and in substantial alignment with said lower end of said resilient tool, whereby said liquid conduit communicates liquid from said liquid supply reservoir downward through said passageway and rearwardly of said lower end of said resilient tool.

28. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 25 further including a locking member movable relative to the housing and operable upon the upper end of the resilient tool disposed in the cavity to removably restrain the resilient tool with respect to the housing.

29. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 28 wherein the locking member is further operable upon the upper end of the resilient tool disposed in the cavity to adjust a vertical position of said lower end of said resilient tool with respect to a lower end of the housing.

30. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 26 further including a locking member movable relative to the housing and operable upon the upper end of the resilient tool disposed in the cavity to removably restrain the resilient tool with respect to the housing.

31. (Original) The bracket assembly of claim 30 wherein the locking member is further operable upon the upper end of the resilient tool disposed in the cavity to adjust a vertical position of said lower end of said resilient tool with respect to a lower end of the housing.

32. (New) A method of supporting a resilient tool in substantial alignment with a seed tube of an agricultural planter, said method comprising:

- providing a resilient tool;
- providing a bracket, said bracket comprising:
 - a housing, said housing having opposing first and second sides;
 - mounting structure; and
 - walls for maintaining said first and second sides of said housing in spaced apart relation, and wherein said walls further define a cavity in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube, said walls further defining a passageway through at least a portion of said housing;
- securing said bracket to the agricultural planter rearwardly and in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube of an agricultural planter;
- operably supporting an upper end of said resilient tool within said cavity such that a lower end of said resilient tool is disposed rearwardly and in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube;
- disposing a length of liquid conduit through said passageway, said liquid conduit having one end in fluid communication with a liquid supply reservoir and a second end supported rearwardly and in substantial alignment with said lower end of said resilient tool, whereby said liquid conduit communicates liquid from said liquid supply reservoir downward through said passageway and rearwardly of said lower end of said resilient tool.

33. (New) A method of supporting seed planting appurtenances in substantial alignment with a seed tube of an agricultural planter, said method comprising:

- securing a bracket to the agricultural planter rearwardly and in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube of an agricultural planter, said bracket comprising:
 - a housing having opposing first and second sides;
 - mounting structure; and
 - walls for maintaining said first and second sides of said housing in spaced apart relation;
- operably supporting a support arm from said bracket, said support arm having first and second ends, said first end operably supported by said housing, said second end extending

rearwardly of said first end and in substantial alignment with said seed tube, said second end having a fitting to support one end of a conduit.

34. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein said walls further define a cavity in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube for receiving a resilient tool.

35. (New) The method of claim 34 further comprising, removably supporting an upper end of said resilient tool in said cavity wherein a lower end of said resilient tool is disposed rearwardly and in substantial alignment with respect to the seed tube.

36. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein said walls further define a passageway through at least a portion of said housing.

37. (New) The method of claim 36 further comprising disposing a length of liquid conduit through said passageway, and further wherein one end of said liquid conduit is in fluid communication with a liquid supply reservoir and wherein a second end of said liquid conduit is supported rearwardly and in substantial alignment with said lower end of said resilient tool, whereby said liquid conduit communicates liquid from said liquid supply reservoir downward through said passageway and rearwardly of said lower end of said resilient tool.